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Good. The Law of Imperfection work

THE How of Improvement Work

By JESSIE M. ^{and} GOOD



Issued Under the Auspices of the National League of Improvement
Associations,

SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

THE HOME CRIST # 1 JANUARY.

forming an association in your town, and if it is agreed to be feasible, then proceed to the election of the regular officers.

Be exceedingly cautious in the selection of your officers for this first year. It will depend upon them whether the association fulfills the purposes for which it was organized, or adds another to the long list of societies that simply meet to pass resolutions condemning public officials for remissness, for which you are quite as responsible as they. Do not choose those wily old taxpayers who cheerfully join every public organization in town in order to control it and keep their taxes down, and after killing all efforts at reform proceed with the usual routine of having the tax levy adjusted to suit themselves. Nor should you choose women who have run all church and social organizations until there is a feeling of rebellion against their further rule. Rather choose the most successful, go-ahead young business men and popular, progressive women for your officers—people who make successes of their undertakings. Above all, do not in your public meetings abuse your city officials. Rather work in harmony with them. You will find it the wiser plan. If interest enough has been aroused to call a meeting in some public building there will be plenty of people present who are able to conduct the meeting and its election in an orderly manner.

At this point the best aid I can give you is to reprint in full the constitutions



Bicycle Path Near St. Paul, Minn.

This is one of the most interesting cycle paths the writer has seen pictured. There is a rough-hewn, woodland air about it that makes one long to lean his wheel against a tree and, resting upon a stump, study those trees awhile. We fancy a spring is near by.



Before.

This is a view of the sheds on the Montgomery County, Ohio, Fair Grounds before the Dayton Improvement Associations induced the commissioners to remove them.

public building other than a school house. Five for second best. This last prize will include the postoffice, library, court house, church yards, etc. Three dollars for the best window or porch box. Two dollars for second best. Five dollars for the best grown vines that cover fences, porches, or windows. These vines to be the tender annuals, not the hardy vines that require but little care from year to year. Ten dollars to the neatest and most improved premises (front and back) along any railroad within the city limits. Five dollars to the second best. The improvement to be judged by comparison with the condition of the property the previous year.

A special prize of ten dollars is offered for the best kept premises of a man or woman living in rented property, and whose income does not exceed twelve hundred dollars a year. I should have stated earlier perhaps that all these prizes were limited to applicants whose incomes do not exceed the above sum. The aim is to arouse interest in beautiful surroundings among people whose income obliges them to take care of their own lawns. This prize gave possibly the most satisfactory results of any offered the previous year. A member and interested friend of the association has offered eight prizes of five dollars each to go to a boy and girl in each of the four quarters of the city as divided by the association, who can show the best flower bed planted and cared for by himself or herself. The boy or girl must not be over sixteen years of age.

The offer of these prizes was published several times in each of the city papers. Neat circulars were printed and distributed to the pupils of the various schools until the offers were thoroughly understood. All applicants must file the notification of their entrance in the contest by the fifteenth of June, and as soon after as possible the awarding committee visit the premises of all contestants and examine them from gutter to alley. Another visit is paid in August and another in September, after which the committee announces the winners. No one knows the days the committee chooses for their visits and the prizes are awarded strictly on the merits of the premises as found.

Another work this association has undertaken may be of interest to you. They take photographs of some of the worst streets and alleys in town, when they are littered with paper and heaps of ashes and rubbish. Lantern slides are made of them and on Saturday night, when thousands of people are thronging the market, a screen is placed on the wall of some building and the pictures are thrown upon it. Untidy back yards with their weeds and rubbish receive full attention, while in contrast are shown tidy, well-shaded streets, clean alleys and pretty lawns and porches. No names are given but the lessons taught are bearing fruit, while the shouts of the multitude and the comments heard show the appreciation of this



After.

This picture shows the same fair grounds with the sheds replaced by a high iron fence along which was planted American ivy that in a year or two will be a wall of living green.

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Ready for the Flower Show.

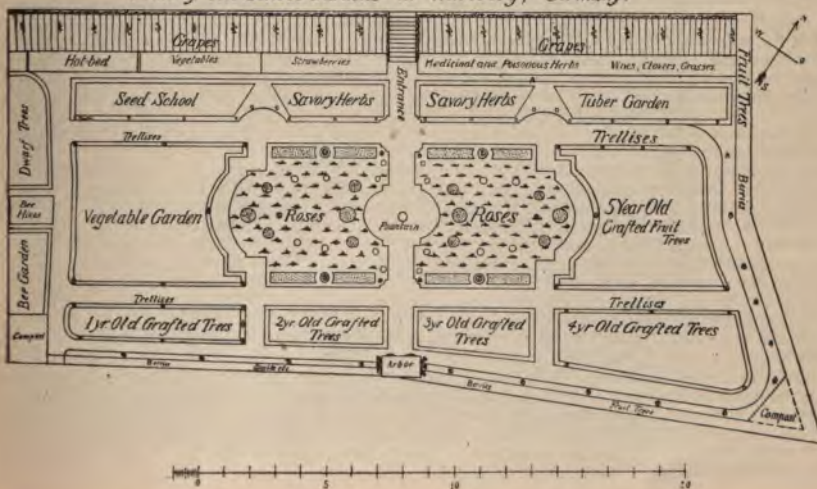
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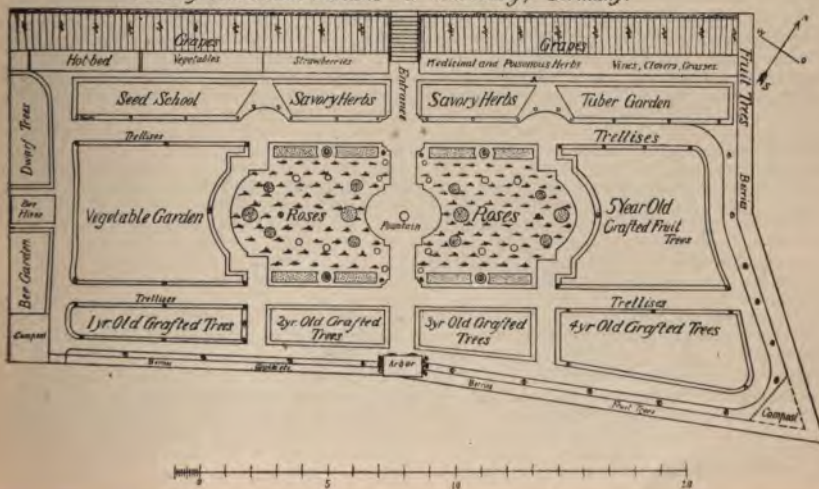
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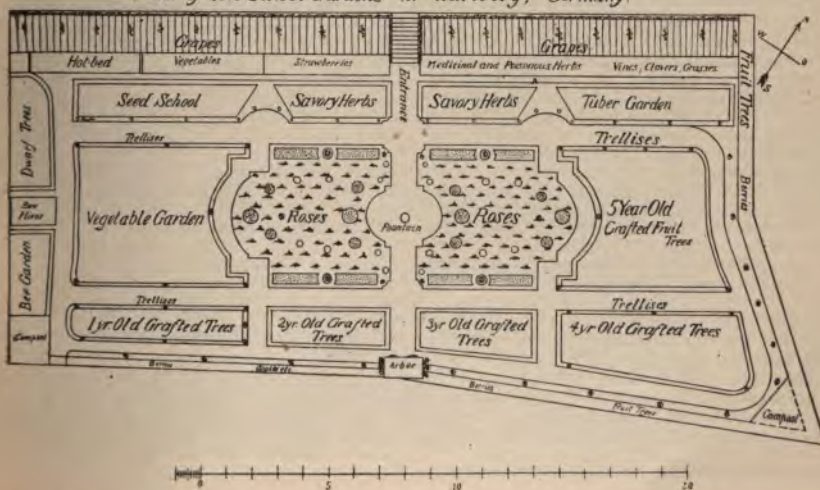
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Cambridge Field, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

This is one of the most notable municipal playgrounds in America, comprising as it does twelve and six-tenth acres of ground in the most densely populated part of Cambridge. The field house is of brick. It provides lavatories, matron's and janitor's rooms, and room for the sale of refreshments. The broad hall is a gathering place in stormy weather. The basement provides storage room for bicycles and a place for the change of clothing by the athletes. On either side of the field house are hedge-enclosed playgrounds for small girls and babies. The sand courts are also here, under the matron's eye. The greatest space is given up to the gravel playground that in winter is flooded for a skating pond. The cost of this playground, including land and construction, was \$194,738.00, or about 37 cents per square foot. In 1886 the assessed value of the property within the area of influence was \$388,100.00; inside of five years the value had increased to \$1,651,600.00, making a net gain of \$725,500.00—nearly enough to pay for the interest and sinking fund. The cost of maintenance, including salaries of matron and janitor, is nearly \$6,300.00 per year. "From the moment a child enters the ground an endeavor is made to surround him with habits of clean conversation, respect for authority, regard for the rights of the weak, fair play towards his equals, personal cleanliness and many more of the virtues that make a good citizen." In 1886 the Northwest University of Chicago established a playground roomy enough for three or four thousand children. In an interview with Lieutenant Knoll of the police force of the district embracing this playground he said: "Young boys under sixteen who are not occupied loaf around street corners, they have no place to go, they get into saloons, they annoy passers-by and form crowds. They resent the interference of the police, and finally they are arrested. We hate to do this as it is the first step towards pushing a boy downward into the criminal class. Since this playground is opened they come in here, they give us no trouble whatever, and juvenile arrests in this vicinity have decreased fully 33½ per cent." It was also proven that juvenile crime in July and August in one crowded ward was 60 per cent. greater than during the other ten months of the year. Is further argument needed think you?



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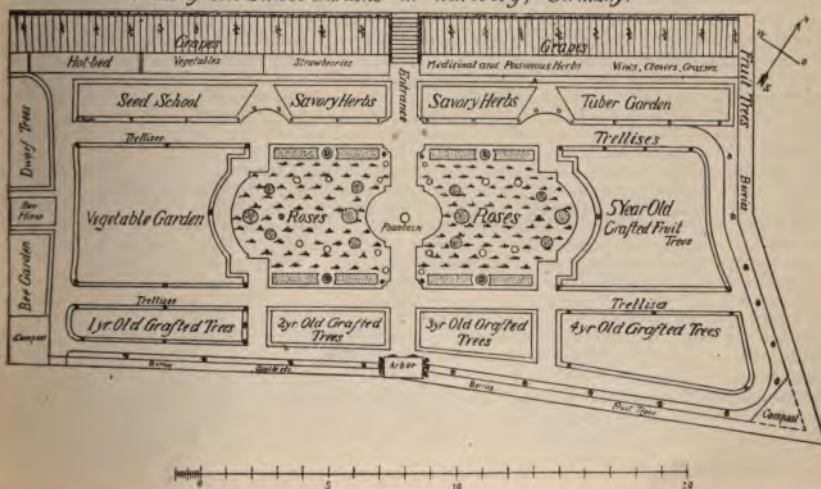
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Corner in Grounds of Westinghouse Air Brake Company, Pittsburg, Pa.

Commercial Bodies and Civic Improvement

By E. L. Shuey.

The day is past when improvement of home surroundings is wholly a matter of private choice; when only an occasional "sweet will" decides whether weeds or flowers shall grow over the premises and sidewalks, and whether the principal ornaments of the rear yard shall be tin cans.

Neatly kept yards, well trimmed sidewalks and clean streets are now regarded as high evidence of the city's prosperity as much as large factories, and are one of its best means of attracting desirable citizens. The city must advertise as well as the business man today if it would attract capital, good men and women and law-abiding citizens.

Efforts are made by many cities to draw factories and business enterprises to settle within their limits. The advantages of railroad and steamer communication, the nearness of markets or of raw material, the excellence of labor—all are arguments frequently used with manufacturers and investors to prove a city's opportunities. But in recent days it has been recognized that another element must be

named; attractiveness of the home life, the beauty and healthfulness of the city, the excellence of its schools—all these are now seen to be essential to the growing town. In view of this, the improvement and beautifying of the city streets, parks, boulevards, and even of its yards and houses, become matters not simply of individual preference but of public concern. The investment in attractiveness is no longer municipal extravagance but prudent expenditure—hence the organization of improvement associations, usually composed of the people of a neighborhood, or in smaller cities of an entire community, has come to be a recognized method of



Planting About Factory of Westinghouse Air Brake Company.

The Westinghouse Air Brake Company ranks high among the firms which not only have adorned their factory grounds but have made it possible for all of their employes to have beautiful lawns and flowers. The Westinghouse Company employs a head gardener and four assistants to care for the factory grounds. The gardener also has charge of a large greenhouse where are grown many of the plants used. Surplus greenhouse stock is given away to the employes. The works of this company are situated at Wilmerding, a suburb of Pittsburgh. All employes or residents of the town are entitled to the advice of the gardener in planting their grounds. They may turn their orders over to the firm, which furnishes at cost and in large quantities the shrubs, plants and seeds desired. Seeds are sold employes at one cent a package, while many seeds are given school children. The firm also offers a series of prizes for the best lawns, gardens, etc. A small but pretty park adjoining the factory is open to the workmen and school children.

The idea is gaining the attention of the best sociologists of the country that to get the best results both in character and work "the worker must have joy in his work."

encouraging an *esprit du corps* which is essential to the best growth. Such societies have as their purpose not only the beautifying of external conditions but also general improvement and instruction. The Neighborhood Improvement Association is not, it is true, a recent form of organization, but its extension and importance are more fully recognized at this time.

The improvement association seeks the general good and asks assistance from every class of kindred social, educational and civic organizations. In the list of the possible helpers are the commercial and municipal bodies of many cities. While these are formed voluntarily or by law for the promotion of business enterprises or for legislation for the city's government and the moral, physical and



Millis, Mass., Railway Station Grounds.

In this present age great interest is manifested in railway stations and the grounds about them. The more cultivated tastes of the traveling public demand beauty of surroundings. Whether that beauty be simple or ornate depends upon the situation. The public at large does not care to enter a train from a marble palace in the city and be dumped on a dark, ill-smelling platform at its home station, the station itself looking like an immigrant depot. Railway companies are awakening to a sense of their responsibilities in this regard, and a few well planned stations and grounds may be found in the United States. The Millis, Mass., railway station and the grounds about it were designed by Mr. Edward P. Adams, landscape architect, of Boston, Mass. The drives are graceful, and so arranged that a blockade of vehicles cannot occur. Persons in carriages alight under cover. Shelter is provided for horses. A novel but excellent feature is the library and reading room on the second floor, for passengers and employees. This, and the pretty little parks about the station proper and about the freight house across the tracks, makes waiting for a train a thing to be born with equanimity. Instead of an eyesore to this village of less than a thousand inhabitants, the station is its pride.



Station Park at Jenkintown, Pa., on line of Philadelphia and Reading R. R.

financial safety of the corporation, yet the application of these functions is wide and varied. Local municipal bodies—city, town and village councils, etc.—have it within their power very materially to assist these organizations by encouraging and passing well-planned ordinances for securing the general purposes for which they are formed so far as they pertain to common interests.

It is within the power of these civic bodies

1. To see that streets and alleys are cleaned and kept neat and attractive.
2. To provide for the collection of garbage, ashes, refuse, etc.

Both of these are important not only for the sake of appearance, but more especially for the sake of the general health of the community. With good laws, well enforced, backed by the interest of active improvement associations, a town may be revolutionized in a short time. Without the active assistance of well-organized, interested citizens, it is difficult to accomplish proper enforcement of even good laws. An improvement association is an excellent director of public opinion and educator of personal interests.

3. To make reasonable but exact rules for good sidewalks, roadways, planting of trees, etc.

4. To provide for parks.

5. In short, to put into form of ordinances and to provide for their enforcement, proper laws for municipal care of public health and improvement and to enlist members of improvement associations or similar organizations in their best development.

It is important that the work be in harmony, remembering that members of other societies often are willing to give freely of their time and effort to encourage this feature.

In almost every city the boards of trade, the commercial clubs, and similar organizations are the representative organizations for business purposes. Their object is the proper advertising of the city's interests. No better means can be used to accomplish this purpose than that suggested by the encouragement of the organization of improvement associations within the limits of the city. This is as legitimate a purpose as any scheme for public welfare can be. It is, therefore, suggested that members of this organization ought

1. To become familiar with the plans for home and neighborhood beautifying of other cities through a committee on improvement. It is not sufficient to know only one's own community. The cities and towns of every section have their special features. In the East there is the beauty that comes with age, dignity and steady improvement. In the West there are unusually liberal laws for general beautifying. By some means these efforts ought to be understood.



Station Garden at East Arcadia, N. C., on Seaboard Air Line Railroad.

That vim and vigor are the chief aids to success is as true of village life as of city. East Arcadia is a village of one hundred inhabitants, but it has an improvement association and a traveling library. Mrs. J. C. Stanley, notable housekeeper that she is, yet finds time to act as librarian, is practically the ticket, freight, and express agent, and looks after this pretty garden. Mrs. Stanley has won two valuable prizes for this garden, a gold watch and chain, and a silver pitcher. I doubt if another village of this size in America can show such a station garden. When village life is made attractive, people will cease flocking in such numbers to the cities.

2. To encourage the organization of improvement societies in the city, having one for each neighborhood if the city be large enough. It is necessary that some

one take the initiative and give the movement the benefit of well organized beginnings. It is important, too, that there be a body easily reached, to which definite information may go till the improvement society has found its place. What more natural than that representative organizations of the city's interests should foster a definite movement of this kind?

3. To assist by influence, counsel and funds in practical organization of improvement societies among property holders. A society of this kind will do better if given sufficient means from the beginning to follow up its work of encouragement, prizes for good work, examination into conditions, dissemination of information and the score or more of directions into which it may extend its efforts.

4. To bring proper pressure to bear upon factory owners to assist in the beautifying of their neighborhoods, thus emphasizing the attractiveness to the sturdy laboring classes of the city itself. It may be difficult to attain this directly, either by law or by effort of commercial organizations, but neighborhood organizations—which interest employer and employee—will often attain it. There is no longer any reason for the existence in most cities of the ugly, unsightly and disgraceful appearance of many factories and their neighborhoods. Unite the people of the neighborhood for a common purpose, interest the factory owner at least to the extent of cleaning and beautifying his own premises, and the results are soon attained.

5. Encourage the union of local societies with other societies through the league, for mutual information and assistance. Nothing will bring better return than this work and contributions for club funds for the purpose. The difficulty in the past has been the isolation of the organizations and the waste of energy through lack of knowledge of what others attempted. It is the aim of the National League, with the encouragement of commercial organizations

and local societies to unite their efforts and to disseminate information.

With such a union of effort of all local bodies organized for the city's good, there must come most excellent results—and the city's good name greatly magnified. Numerous are the illustrations of its excellent advantages, proving that the reasons here given are not theory but practice.



Waste Paper Receptacle
Devised by one of the
Members of the Springfield,
Ohio, League.

The advantages are a cover with spring hinge, and the ease with which the can can be lifted from the pole and replaced. The back of the can is shorter than the front which makes it fall over if not hung in place.



A Beautiful Street in Dayton, Ohio.

The National League of Improvement Associations.

A SHORT HISTORY.



Sign-post erected by the Montclair, N. J. Improvement Association at the foot of a long and steep hill.

The national movement for the promotion of civic beauty is a growth of recent years. In the closing decade of the Nineteenth century, there appeared from time to time in the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Forum*, *North American Review*, and other magazines equally well known, articles on the work of the New England village improvement associations. These articles attracted the attention of students of social economy everywhere, and while the formation of many such societies resulted from the publication, yet there was no concerted action. The societies formed were almost entirely confined to the New England states. Some of the associations formed at this time died from inanition. Others, especially in the wealthy suburbs of large cities, organized for the purpose of using influence and united power to obtain from the city councils certain concessions, such as the opening of new streets, extension of water and gas mains, paving, street car lines, after accomplishing their purpose frequently disbanded. The dwellers in many other suburbs found such organizations

too useful to be spared.

No special effort was made in any way by the members of these associations to spread abroad the gospel of Beauty and the cult of the god of Sanitation. But visitors to the towns where these societies existed, carried back to their homes news of the work accomplished by them, and the annual reports were sent by the members to friends in distant localities, who often wondered, no doubt, what manner of club this might be whose members found pleasure in inspecting streets, alleys, back yards, and like places.

Through these various means a wide circle of people came to know of the work of village improvement associations, while the secretaries of some prominent societies were kept busy answering inquiries about the manner of organization, and the cost and ways of maintenance. The magazines and newspapers, through articles by artists, architects and travelers, next attacked the outdoor art of America in the form of its sculpture, architecture, and landscape gardening. Books of foreign travel, finely and profusely illustrated, added their quota to the general awakening.

The World's Fair at Chicago gave the people such an opportunity as rarely comes to a nation to study in their proper juxtaposition the four great arts, Painting, Architecture, Sculpture and Landscape-gardening; and the few months of its existence did for America's art education what centuries of patient but mistaken study of art histories in our colleges and public schools could not do. It made these arts living things to thousands and hundreds of thousands, who were all unaware at the time that a new standard of beauty was raised by which everything in the future would be compared. When at the end of six months the fair closed, we knew centuries more than the day it opened.

Foreign visitors to Chicago in 1893, ceased not to speak and write of their amazement, and oftentimes contempt, that a people capable of conceiving such scenes



Tah-gah-ju-te Park and Field, Auburn, N. Y.

This fine athletic park was the gift of the Misses Willard to the Young Men's Christian Association of Auburn. The cost of land and all improvements was \$17,000. There are eight acres of land, three of which is a wooded park. The other five is an athletic field which in the winter is flooded for an ice rink. The field is an association membership privilege, but any organization by making application may have the use of it free for games and field days. One of the popular features of the past winter has been the free nights at the rink for factory employes. The manufacturers would furnish a band and the whole factory force would turn out with their wives and children. The park is conducted as any public park would be, with fountains, walks, seats, swings, etc., and its privileges are free to the whole town.

of dreamlike splendor, should be so contented and so blatantly boastful of dirty, noisy cities, with their lack of architectural fitness, their few parks and public recreation grounds, and the unspeakable public roads. Not all the glories of a train service that supplied stenographers, maids and barbers to the patrons of leading railways could compensate these patrons for the fact that their bodies, while the thermometer was in the nineties, were being slowly melted in the embrace of red plush cushions, and their eyes were being continually offended with unkempt farms, dreary little villages, and dirty railway stations.

Whatever the cause, the fact remains, that from the year of the World's Fair at Chicago has dated a great impulse in the United States towards civic beauty. Innumerable clubs and commissions have been formed which have endeavored to promote a higher regard for out-door art in all its forms, and at the same time to regulate, with indifferent success, the reckless expression of its charms by public bodies and private individuals.

It was not until the years 1898, 1899, 1900, however, that the desire for a national movement, the object of which should be the promotion of civic beauty,

began to find expression. Through these years "Home and Flowers," formerly *How to Grow Flowers*, a floral magazine issued at Springfield, Ohio, published a series of articles on village improvement associations, giving examples of the workings of these societies in various towns through the United States. These articles were fully illustrated, showing the beauty in plaza, street, and yard and the improved sanitary conditions brought about by the work and influence of these associations.

This matter, simply written as it was, attracted so much attention in all quarters of the country that to answer even a tithe of the letters of inquiry received by the author and the magazine became a heavy burden. Very many of these letters asked "Why cannot a headquarters be established where people desiring to form these associations may go for instruction and information, and where an interchange of plans and helpful suggestions from the older associations may be effected?" "Why not start a national movement for civic beauty?"

These requests were so numerous that after much consultation with many of the leading men and women of the country, who without exception heartily endorsed the idea, a call was made for a national convention of village improvement associations to meet at Springfield, Ohio, on October 10, 1900.

The result in the number of delegates and their enthusiasm was as surprising as gratifying. A society called the National League of Improvement Associations was organized and a constitution and by-laws framed and adopted, officers elected and the usual routine business of a convention transacted.



Casino in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

In this casino, which was built and is controlled by a stock company, gathers the social life of this beautiful little town. Here are given the concerts, lectures, dances and theatricals. If more small towns had such places where youth may have its natural and proper pleasures, fewer young people would seek the excitements of large towns, and there would be fewer neglected parents.

Constitution and By-Laws of the City Improvement Society of Wichita, Kansas.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

SECTION 1. The name of this Society shall be The Wichita City Improvement Society.

ARTICLE II.—OBJECT.

SECTION 1. The object of this Society shall be the improvement of Wichita in Health, Growth, Cleanliness, Prosperity, Attractiveness and Industrial Education.

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Any person may become a member of this Society by signing the Constitution and paying to the Treasurer twenty-five (25) cents.

SEC. 2. All members agree to do what they can to promote the objects of this Society; (1) by informing their neighbors of the purpose of the Society, and soliciting them to become members of the same; (2) and especially in the care, cleanliness and improvement of their own grounds, walks and alleys adjacent.

ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall perform the duties common to these officers in other organizations.

SEC. 2. These officers shall constitute an Executive Committee who shall make provisions for public meetings as to speakers, music recitals, etc., also perform such other duties as may be ordered by the Society.

SEC. 3. Said officers shall be elected by ballot at the first regular meeting of each year, and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected.

SEC. 4. The Treasurer shall make a written report at end of the year, of all receipts, disbursements, and at such other times as may be ordered by the Society.

SEC. 5. The Treasurer shall pay out money only on the order of the Society or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V.—MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The Society shall hold at least one meeting each month, and at such other times as may be ordered by the Society or called by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.—COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1. The following standing committees shall be appointed by the Society at the first annual meeting of each year, consisting of not less than three members each, viz.: 1—A Committee on Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks; 2—A Committee on Tree Planting, Tree Culture and Street Parking; 3—A Committee on Public Parks, Lawn and Floral Culture; 4—A Committee on Sanitation including Drainage Sewerage and Purity of Water for domestic purposes; 5—A Committee on Education, touching Industrial Departments in our public schools, also the enforcement of the law for compulsory attendance at school.

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, such amendment having been presented in writing at a previous meeting.

BY-LAWS.

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of this Society shall occur on the second Wednesday evening of each month.

SEC. 2. The place for holding the regular monthly meetings shall be in the Council Chamber.

SEC. 3. By-Laws may be changed at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present.

Constitution and By-Laws of the Town Improvement Association, of Montclair, New Jersey.**ARTICLE I.****NAME.**

This organization shall be called "The Town Improvement Association, of Montclair, New Jersey."

ARTICLE II.**OBJECT.**

The object and particular business of this Association shall be to protect the health of the people of Montclair by taking such action from time to time as may secure the enforcement of existing sanitary laws and regulations; by calling the attention of the proper authorities to any violation thereof, and to procure the amendment of said laws and regulations when they shall be found inadequate for the prevention of acts injurious to the public health; also, to promote neatness and order and do whatever may tend to improve the town and beautify it as a place of residence.

ARTICLE III.**MEMBERSHIP.**

Any woman may become an active member of this Association by the annual payment of fifty cents.

Any child under fourteen may become a member of this Association by the annual payment of twenty-five cents.

The payment of ten dollars annually for three consecutive years, or the payment of twenty-five dollars in one sum, shall constitute any woman a Life Member of this Association.

Any individual, for benefits conferred upon this Association, may become an Honorary Member by a vote of a majority of members present at any regular meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE IV.**OFFICERS.**

The officers of this Association shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer. All of these, together with the chairmen of the standing committees, shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and their term of office shall be for one year.

Nominations for all these offices shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the President at the regular meeting of the Association next preceding the annual meeting. Vacancies occurring in any of these offices shall be filled by the Executive Board at its next regular meeting.

The officers, the chairmen of all standing committees, and six others appointed by the President, shall constitute the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V.**PRESIDING OFFICER.**

The President shall preside at all meetings of this Association, or in her absence the First Vice-President shall preside. In the absence of both, the Second Vice-President shall fill the place. If none of these are present the chair shall be occupied by a president pro tem.

ARTICLE VI.**SECRETARIES.**

The Secretary shall keep a correct and careful record of all the proceedings of each meeting of this Association, and shall read said record at the next regular meeting. She shall also discharge such other duties as may from time to time be assigned her by the Association.

The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct all correspondence on behalf of the Association, and shall be responsible for all correspondence, and perform all duties of the Secretary in the event of her absence or inability to act.

ARTICLE VII.

TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all moneys for and on account of the Association, and shall make a report of her transactions at the annual meeting and at such other times as may be directed by the Executive Board or Association. The fiscal year shall date from the annual meeting.

She shall disburse funds only in accordance with Article XI. All moneys shall be deposited in the Montclair Bank, and all bills paid by check on said bank.

ARTICLE VIII.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board shall take general superintendence of all business of the Association. It shall appoint all special committees, direct all improvements, write all contracts, expend all moneys, and arrange all meetings.

Regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held monthly throughout the year, and as much oftener as may be deemed necessary, at such place and hour as shall be fixed by the Board.

Special meetings of the Executive Board shall be called at any time by the President upon the request of two members of the Board.

All official acts of the Executive Board shall be binding upon the Association.

ARTICLE IX.

MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The regular meetings of the Association shall be held on the third Friday of April, June, October and January, at such place and hour as shall be fixed by the Executive Board. The April meeting shall be the annual meeting.

Special meetings of the Association shall be called by the Secretary upon the written request of ten members of the Association.

Public notice shall be given of all meetings of the Association.

ARTICLE X.

QUORUM.

Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of Association.

Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XI.

LIABILITIES.

No debt shall be contracted by the Executive Board beyond the available means within their control to pay the same. No bill shall be paid until approved in writing by two of the committee ordering the same; and no bill shall be approved which is for a sum greater than the appropriation for the special purpose covered by such bill.

ARTICLE XII.

PUBLIC ACTION.

No request shall be presented to any public authority, for action, in the name of this Association, unless the same shall have been approved by a majority of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE III.

AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association, provided notice of such proposed amendment has been presented in writing and read at a preceding regular meeting of the Association.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1. There shall be ten standing committees, namely: Street, Sanitary, Finance, Humane, Railroad, Children's Auxiliary, Preservation of Natural Beauties, Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Park Committee.

